2. In classifying tanks as major and minor, tanks with an atchkat of Rs. 100 and above may be classed as major in the malnad.

Reply of Government.—The whole subject is under consideration. This representation will be borne in mind.

SUBJECT No. 85.

Minor irrigation works.

Messrs. D. Venkataramaiya, Bangalore City Municipality; A. Ramanna, Yedatore Taluk; M. K. Krishnamurti, Magadi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In villages cattle and people feel water scarcity for at least four months in the year. This is due to the absence of a regular system of construction and restoration of minor works of irrigation. It is therefore proposed that the skill of our engineers may be utilized for bringing minor works of irrigation to an efficient condition. There is no inducement offered to the ryots to undertake the restoration of tanks. They are required either to do the earthwork or pay contribution but are charged with full assessment after the tank is restored. The capacity of most of the tanks to irrigate the lands dependent on them is decreasing as the tanks are not properly repaired. The principles upon which the Public Works Department authorities decide whether a work is remunerative or not are defective and it is not merely the immediate revenue return that should be taken into consideration in such cases, but the general increase of prosperity likely to result from a well-considered expansion of irrigation. The existing tanks may be put in order thoroughly and new works taken up according to a definite programme every year. The provision for expenditure on irrigation is now inadequate and should be increased, if necessary, by suitable retrenchments in other directions.

Reply of Government.—Noted. That a sufficient supply of water is not obtained from existing tanks and other works of irrigation is partly due to the neglect of the ryots and they should pay more attention to maintain them. Steps are being taken to improve the conditions of existing tanks and funds are being allotted as far as possible for execution of new works.

SUBJECT No. 86.

Sowdies to be appointed for tanks yielding Rs. 1,000 and above.

Mr. Shamiengar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Tanks are distinguished as major and minor, the former being those that yield an income of more than Rs. 300, while the latter are those that have an yield of Rs. 300 and below. But tanks under which there is an yield of Rs. 3,000 are supervised only by *manègars*, while others are left under the supervision of patels. This arrangement interferes much with the regulation of water-supply. It is therefore prayed that tanks yielding a revenue of Rs. 1,000 and above be kept under the supervision of sowdies, their pay being met from the acreage cess to be levied from the ryots holding lands under them.